

Madison Valley Stormwater Project

Spring 2009 Update

The Madison Valley area has experienced substantial surface flooding and sewer backup events. After the August 2004 storm, which resulted in significant flooding in the valley, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) began an in-depth process to develop and evaluate many options to reduce the potential for flooding in the valley. SPU is currently designing a new stormwater conveyance and storage system to greatly reduce the potential for stormwater flooding in the valley. The project will be completed in two phases that, together, will be designed to contain the amount of stormwater that caused flooding in the two largest storms in 157 years of record - August 2004 and December 2006.

You will find details for both of these phases on pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter.

Project Area



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What's Inside?

Turn the page for more info about:

- Phase 1: Above-Ground Stormwater Storage at 30th Ave E and E John Street
- Phase 2: NW Diversion and Washington Park Stormwater Storage
- Project timeline and next steps
- How to get involved and stay informed

You're Invited to a Community Meeting

Join us to learn more about Phase 2 of the Madison Valley Stormwater Project and share your ideas.

Wednesday, April 8, 2009
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Garfield Community Center (gymnasium)
2323 East Cherry St.
Seattle, WA 98122

Attendees will have an opportunity to:

- Learn about Phase 2 of the project, including the stormwater pipeline and stormwater storage in Washington Park.
- Help identify potential construction impacts and strategies to reduce them.
- Share ideas about landscaping for the above-ground stormwater storage in Washington Park.

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Phase 1 Update

60% Design of Above-Ground Stormwater Storage at 30th Ave E and E John St



Graphic by Karen Kiest Landscape Architects

Phase 1 consists of expansion of an above-ground stormwater holding area at 30th Ave E and E John Street. When complete, the area will have the capacity to hold 1.7 million gallons of stormwater during large storms. Typically when it rains, water is able to drain into a combined sewer system. However, during times of very heavy rainfall, the pipelines can become full. The purpose of the stormwater holding area is to collect and hold this additional stormwater until capacity becomes available within the combined sewer system; this typically happens within hours after a heavy rain storm.

Construction of Phase 1 is expected to begin in summer 2009 and the expanded stormwater holding area should be operational by the end of the year. Before construction begins, SPU will hold a final public meeting with the community to share the final design and construction details.

The Phase 1 site will also serve as a community open space when there are no large rain storms. Since July 2008, SPU has held four public meetings to gather community input on the project's public involvement plan, site design, and landscaping. The most recent conceptual design of the above-ground storage facility is shown above.

Some site features include:

- Multiple pathways including ADA / wheelchair access
- Native plantings
- Rolling and open lawns
- Stone garden
- Overlooks

Phase 2 Design is Beginning

Last summer, the Seattle City Council and the Mayor authorized SPU to design and construct a pipeline in the NW section of the Madison Valley basin that will convey stormwater to a new storage system in Washington Park. The location of the stormwater pipeline will be determined based on engineering factors as well as community impacts, cost and schedule constraints.

The storage system is expected to have the capacity to hold 2.1 million gallons of stormwater with approximately half of the storage capacity in a below-ground tank and half in an above-ground landscaped area. Based on modeling results, stormwater would only appear in the Washington Park above-ground holding area during especially large storms like the two in August 2004 and December 2006. Stormwater will flow from the storage system to the combined sewer system as soon as capacity is available, typically within hours after heavy rain storms.

Construction of Phase 2 is expected to begin in summer 2010. The combined cost for Phase 1 and 2 is between \$24 and \$33 million. The cost range will narrow as Phase 2 design progresses.

SPU will host several public meetings to discuss the design and future construction for Phase 2. The first meeting will be on Wednesday, April 8.

Get Involved

Stay informed and share questions, comments, and ideas:

- Join us at a public meeting
- Email us at info@madisonvalleystormwater.com
- Call us at 206.455.5345
- Visit us on the Web at www.seattle.gov/util/MadisonValley

Project Milestones

The timeline below identifies important project milestones. Phase 1 construction will begin in summer 2009 and is scheduled to be operational by the end of the year; some landscaping may occur in 2010. Phase 2 design is underway and construction is scheduled to begin in summer 2010. Watch your mail for public meeting announcements and project updates.

	2008		2009				2010				2011	
	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring
City Council and Mayor authorize Phase 1 and Phase 2	●											
Phase 1 public meetings	●	●	●									
Phase 1 pre-construction meeting					●							
Phase 1 construction												
Phase 2 design												
Start of Phase 2 construction (Approx. 15-18 months)									●			
Proposed Phase 2 public meetings												

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We are here